



# MaineDOT



## Maine Turnpike News

For Immediate Release  
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### Nighttime Closures Planned for Turnpike South Portland (Exit 45) Interchange

--New bridge beams to be installed on Payne Road Bridge--

**SOUTH PORTLAND**—Drivers who use the Maine Turnpike's South Portland interchange (Exit 45) during the late night and early morning hours may want to adjust their travel plans next week. Sunday night, contractors will begin the process of installing huge steel beams on the new bridge that will carry the Payne Road over the Maine Turnpike's interchange ramps. The beam installation will result in various lane closures over a four to five night period, including the complete closure of the interchange on Tuesday, Wednesday and possibly Thursday nights. Traffic flow over the existing bridge that currently carries the Payne Road should not be impacted by these construction activities.

#### **Sunday Night**

Between 10 p.m. Sunday and 5 a.m. Monday morning the northbound off-ramp at Turnpike Exit 45 will be closed completely as contractors install beams on the south side of the bridge. Motorists are advised to use Exit 42 in Scarborough or Exit 46 at the Jetport. Detours will be clearly marked. The southbound exiting and north and southbound entering ramps will remain open through the night.

#### **Monday Night**

The interchange will remain open in all directions Monday night, but traffic will be reduced to a single lane on portions of both the entering and exiting ramps as contractors install beams on the north side of the bridge. Minor delays should be expected.

#### **Tuesday, Wednesday and possibly Thursday Night**

Between 10 p.m. Tuesday and 5 a.m. Wednesday the entire interchange will be closed as beams are installed in the center of the bridge, directly above the entering and exiting lanes of the interchange. The same closure schedule will take place Wednesday night into Thursday morning and possibly Thursday night into Friday morning depending on the pace of the work. Again, motorists are encouraged to use Exit 42 in Scarborough or Exit 46 at the Jetport during these hours.

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**Page 2 of 2**  
**Exit 45 Closures**

Construction activities may be adjusted due to weather conditions.

The reconstruction of the Payne Road Bridge is part of the Maine Department of Transportation's initiative to improve traffic flow and safety in the entire Maine Mall area. The new Payne Road Bridge will be widened from 4 to 6 lanes to improve traffic flow and will include a sidewalk for pedestrians.

Turnpike travelers are already being informed about the upcoming closures by flashing highway message boards and recorded messages on highway advisory radio 1610 AM. For additional information about the Maine Mall Area Roadwork or to sign up for e-mail alerts visit [www.mainedot.gov](http://www.mainedot.gov).